

## Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 NASSAU 02151 232009Z

41

ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 ARAE-00 AF-06 IO-10 SSO-00 EUR-12

CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05

PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 EB-07 DOTE-00 CG-00

/092 W

----- 010230

P 231918Z DEC 75

FM AMEMBASSY NASSAU

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 7669

CONFIDENTIAL NASSAU 2151

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR PINR CU BF

SUBJ: ALLEGED CONGESTION IN HAVANA HARBOR

REF: STATE 300139

1. MINEXTAFF PERM SEC RUSSELL HAS REQUESTED EMBASSY'S ASSISTANCE IN ASCERTAINING PRESENT SITUATION IN HAVANA HARBOR. ACCORDING TO RUSSELL, USUALLY HIGHLY RELIABLE GCOB SOURCE STATES THAT HARBOR IS PRESENTLY CONGESTED AND THAT VESSELS, INCLUDING EASTERN EUROPEAN AND RUSSIAN FREIGHTERS, ARE EXPERIENCING UNUSUALLY LONG DELAYS (TWO TO SIX WEEKS) IN ENTERING HARBOR. WHEN ASKED WHY THE MINISTRY WISHED THIS INFO, RUSSELL STATED THAT IT WOULD BE USEFUL IN VERIFYING OR REPUDIATING MIAMI TV REPORTS AND RUMORS THAT EASTERN EUROPEAN FREIGHTERS WERE ANCHORED OFF BAHAMAS AND THAT THEIR PRESENCE WAS RELATED TO CUBAN AIR LIFT TO ANGOLA (EMBASSY RECEIVED REQUEST OVER WEEKEND FOR CONFIRMATION OF SIMILAR REPORT FROM MIAMI HERALD CORRESPONDENT WHO WAS REFERRED TO GCOB).

2. ACCORDING TO RUSSELL, GCOB HAS IN FACT VERIFIED PRESENCE OF A RUSSIAN SHIP SOUTH OF CAY SAL. IT WAS HIS OPINION THAT VESSEL'S PRESENCE THERE COULD EASILY BE EXPLAINED BY HARBOR CONGESTION AS SHIPS AWAITING ENTRANCE TO HAVANA HARBOR WERE

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 NASSAU 02151 232009Z

RELUCTANT TO ANCHOR CLOSER IN GIVEN HEAVY SIDE ROLL IN AREA

BETWEEN FLORIDA STRAITS AND NICHOLAS CHANNEL. (RUSSELL IS AN  
EXPERIENCED SEAMAN HIMSELF AND DESCRIBED IN DETAIL HIS OWN  
EXPERIENCES IN ANCHORING OFF HAVANA IN PRE-CASTRO DAYS.)

3. ANY FACTUAL INFORMATION DEPARTMENT CAN PROVIDE EMBASSY ON  
PRESENT SITUATION AT HAVANA HARBOR FOR TRANSMITTAL TO MINEXTAFF  
WOULD BE APPRECIATED. EMBASSY ALSO REQUESTS DEPARTMENT'S  
EVALUATION ON POSSIBLE TIEIN BETWEEN PRESENCE OF EASTERN EUROPEAN  
SHIPS IN AREA AND CUBAN TROOP MOVEMENTS.

WEISS

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptoning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** REPORTS, PORT CONGESTION, SHIPS, FOREIGN ASSISTANCE  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 23 DEC 1975  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** johnsorg  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1975NASSAU02151  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** D750445-0838  
**From:** NASSAU  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1975/newtext/t19751215/aaaaanah.tel  
**Line Count:** 71  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Office:** ACTION ARA  
**Original Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** 76 STATE 300139  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** johnsorg  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 05 SEP 2003  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <05 SEP 2003 by ElyME>; APPROVED <18 DEC 2003 by johnsorg>  
**Review Markings:**

Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
06 JUL 2006

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** ALLEGED CONGESTION IN HAVANA HARBOR  
**TAGS:** PFOR, PINR, CU, BF  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006